



A MONTH IN GERMANY AND HOLLAND.



THE JAPANESE PALACE, DRESDEN.

SECTION V. EDUCATION IN GERMANY.

THE system of national education in Germany extends its salutary influence so widely, that every stranger who has a somewhat higher object in his travels than the gratification of mere curiosity, naturally desires to witness in practice that which is so beautiful in theory. This is a subject upon which volumes may be and have been written, and should the interest of the general reader be excited by the following sketch of the system of national education in Prussia he will find no difficulty in extending his information.

The kingdom of Prussia is divided into ten provinces, and these again into departments, circles, and parishes. Every department has a board of education, to which are attached school-inspectors, who reside in the chief towns of every circle the schools of which it is their duty to inspect. Every circle and parish has also its school-board, and every school its proper inspectors or committee; the clergyman of the parish being by virtue of his office one of the inspectors. There is also another officer, the school-councillor, who inspects the schools, stimulates the interest of the different boards and schoolmasters, and reports to the higher authorities. The whole system, since it came into operation in 1819, has been under the cognizance and control of the Minister of Public Instruction, who is assisted in his deliberations by a council. The minister is fully informed of the results of the system by long and accurate reports from the dependent functionaries, who for the most part have a salary attached to their office. The educational establishments are, first, elementary or primary schools; second, burgher or middle schools, and gymnasia; and third, universities.

All parents who are unable to prove that they can give their children a competent education at home, are bound by law to send them to school as soon as they have attained the age of five years. All masters and manufacturers who

employ children as servants or apprentices, are required to give them a suitable education from their seventh to their fourteenth year inclusive. No child can be removed from school, till the inspectors have examined whether he has gone through the whole elementary course. Care is everywhere taken to furnish necessitous parents with the means of sending their children to school, by providing them with clothing and books. The schools are supported by endowments, variously derived, by a tax upon property, and by contributions of parents who are able to pay for the education of their children. The number of children in a school must not be too great, nor can one master have more than a hundred scholars. No schoolmaster collects the fees; this must be done by the board or committee. In some large towns there is a school entirely free to the poor. No schoolmaster is allowed to increase his income by occupations inconsistent with the dignity of his office. The committees are legally responsible for all the expenses of the schools, and for the management of their funds.

The school-houses must be built in a healthy situation, must contain good-sized rooms, be well ventilated, and be kept with great neatness. In villages or small towns, they have a garden belonging to them, which is made available to the scholars for instruction in botany and horticulture. Attached to the school must also be a gravelled court for gymnastic exercises. Maps, instruments, models for drawing and writing, collections for studying natural history, &c., are supplied according to the wants of the scholars.

The first object of every school is to train up the young in such a manner as to implant in their minds a knowledge of the relation of man to his Creator, and in conjunction with this, to excite them to govern their lives according to the spirit and precepts of Christianity. The daily occupations, therefore, begin and end with prayer and religious instruction.

tion; and all the business of the school is interspersed with hymns and songs of a religious tendency. Obedience to the laws, fidelity and attachment to the sovereign and to the state, are carefully inculcated. No kind of punishment which has a tendency to weaken the sentiment of honour is allowed in any case to be inflicted. Incurable scholars, after the necessary attempts to reclaim them have failed, are expelled.

The course of instruction in the elementary schools comprehends religion, as a means of forming the character of children according to the truths of Christianity; the German language, and the language of the country in provinces where another is spoken; the elements of geometry and drawing; practical arithmetic; the elements of natural philosophy, geography, general history, and especially the history of Prussia; singing, writing, and gymnastic exercises; and the simplest mechanical and agricultural operations. The instructions in religion, reading, writing, arithmetic, and singing, are by law strictly indispensable in every school.

In the burgher or middle schools, the course of instruction includes, in addition to the foregoing subjects, exercises in style; the modern foreign languages as an accessory branch of study; the classics, as a means of exercising the faculties of the pupil, and of determining whether he is to enter the higher schools; the elements of mathematics, and a thorough course of practical arithmetic; and, lastly, a knowledge of the Prussian laws and constitution.

Periodical examinations of the pupils are held: and on quitting the elementary school, the pupil receives a certificate as to his capacity and his moral and religious conduct, signed by the masters and the school committee. No special books are prescribed for the different branches of instruction in the primary schools; the directors are free to adopt the best works as they appear. For religious instruction the Bible, and the Catechism generally adopted, are used. The New Testament is given to children who can read; the more advanced scholars have the whole Bible, in Luther's Translation. Public examinations of the boys' schools take place at intervals, and generally on days celebrated in the national history. The examinations of the girls' schools are not held in public, but only in the presence of masters and parents. Parents may address complaints to the proper authorities respecting the education of their children, but they must not present any obstacle to the conformation of the latter to the rules established in the schools.

The clergy are to seize every opportunity, whether at church or during their visits of inspection, of reminding teachers of their high and honourable mission, and the people of their duty towards the public instructors. The people, in short, are brought as much as possible to regard education as one of the essential conditions of public life, and daily to take deeper interest in its progress.

There are about fifty Normal schools, or schools for teachers, in Prussia, in which the course of study lasts three years. The demand for new teachers in the respective departments is regularly ascertained, and no more are educated than can find employment in the country. The same establishments train masters for the lower and higher schools; the expense is chiefly defrayed by government. The supply of teachers is not entirely furnished by these seminaries, but the standard of fitness which is set up in them is applied by law to all other candidates for the office of teaching. Females have to go through a certain system of preparation for the tuition of their own sex.

The election and nomination of schoolmasters are decided by the committee and inspector of schools conjointly, who generally apply to the normal schools for teachers, and never accept one unless he is recommended according to law. The appointment is ratified by the provincial board, and sometimes by the ministerial authorities. Incompetent teachers are sometimes returned to their seminary for additional preparation; and no inefficient teaching nor lax discipline is overlooked or permitted in the schools. The directors of schools are expected to be the guides and friends of the teachers. They are bound especially to attend to the young teachers, to give them advice, set them right, and excite them to aim at perfection, by attending to the plans of more experienced masters, by forming conferences, and by studying the best works on education.

Of the children of the Prussian monarchy between the ages of seven and fourteen, it is calculated that thirteen-fifteenths are educated in the public schools.

The most interesting of all the German schools is the elementary or poor school, in which children of the lowest

class are taught in a most efficient manner. I was conducted to one of these schools in the vicinity of Berlin by a friend who was pastor of the village. The school-house was pleasantly situated with a court-yard in front, a garden, and eight acres of land behind. The number of children amounted to upwards of two hundred, divided into three classes in separate rooms, each class being directed by its own teacher. Most of the children were dirty, ragged, and barefooted, but beaming with health and intelligence. In the lowest class reading was taught on the Phonic Method, which the children seemed thoroughly to enjoy:—it is true that the teacher was energetic, lively, and good-tempered; he managed to engage the attention of every pupil, and by ingeniously varying the subject of instruction to convey much real information, and this was presented in so many different shapes, that while the subject of instruction was strongly impressed on the scholars, no one was a moment idle, and all thought of weariness was absent. Such was the effect produced by good teaching, for it always happens that the progress and temper of the class depend upon the skill and conduct of the teacher. One grand effect of raising education to the rank of a science, and teaching it as any other scientific profession is taught, is that the teachers perform their duty with a fixedness of purpose which results from a clear view of the object to be attained and the best means of attaining it; whereas in England the zealous teacher has a view of education and a method of teaching peculiar to himself, and however earnest he may be he is often inefficient from a want of early training; while the ordinary teacher goes through a certain number of routine duties, and is alike incapable of adapting his instruction to the wants of his pupils or of appreciating his own or their deficiencies.

In the more advanced classes the reading was beautiful, and the examination on what was read no less so: the exercises in mental arithmetic showed how well this branch of science had been taught; processes which most English school-boys would find it difficult to work with slate and pencil, were here performed mentally, and the answer generally given by a simultaneous burst from one half or two-thirds of the class. A few easy details in practical geometry formed the subject of one lesson. The examination in geography was particularly good; the children seemed perfectly familiar with the map of Germany, not only as it respects the mere localities, but also with respect to physical, political, and statistical details. In every class the children sang some beautiful melodies sweetly and effectively.

There are several remarkable inconveniences which render Berlin unpleasant to the stranger, but these to the inhabitants are apparently of so trifling a kind that they would smile at the very idea of recording them. Except in a few of the principal streets the ground presents to the feet so many small rough sharp stones that walking becomes exceedingly painful; and when, at a temperature of ninety degrees and upwards, the kennels in every street exhale their corrupt odours, the distress of the pedestrian is greatly enhanced: if to avoid these two evils you seek the outskirts of the town you are at once plunged ankle-deep in sand, which distresses the feet and eyes, while the heat which it radiates is often scarcely endurable.

I was exposed to all these inconveniences in a marked degree during a few excursions made in company with a German friend. My practical acquaintance with the sand commenced with the first evening of my residence in the city, when a visit was proposed to the grounds of the gymnastic exercise establishment. A drosky conveyed me pleasantly enough off the stones to the house of my friend, who at once led me into a sea of sand, through which the whole of our walk extended. The wonder is how trees and grass and corn can grow in this poor soil:—the trees are indeed stunted, and the grass would not tempt an English ox; and yet no people are so proud of their green fields and plantations. A Berliner would be very angry if you told him that his trees were of small growth, and that nothing seemed to thrive but fir. After half an hour's walking through this sea without water, we arrived at the grounds in question, where we were gratified with an admirable exhibition of gymnastics, of a most diversified character, but everything classified, and pupils of various ages, between seven and twenty-five, passing through regular stages of instruction. The whole was directed by a professor and several assistants, each managing a class as orderly as if in school; and yet there was plenty of merriment, as might be expected from the exhilarating

nature of the exercise. The grounds are royal property, and the whole establishment is under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The pupils exceed five hundred in number, and the sum of three dollars entitles each during the whole summer to the use of the grounds, and the instruction of the master. There is a similar establishment for females in the city, in the house of the professor.

A walk in the neighbourhood of Berlin reveals a few handsome villas, and conducts the pedestrian over sundry wooden draw-bridges; but it does little more, except to extend his acquaintance with the sandy desert upon which the city is built. It is surprising that so sterile a spot should have been chosen for the foundation of a town, and still more so that this town should have assumed its present rank and importance. The Thiergarten (which may be called the Kensington Gardens of Berlin,) is a favourite place of resort: it is an extensive but gloomy plantation, chiefly of fir-trees, containing ornamental walks and collections of stagnant water, and coffee-houses, where military bands amuse the visitors. In order to enjoy the evening's amusements at this place it is necessary to go early: an Englishman is surprised at the healthy hours of the Berliners. In the gardens the band left off playing at half-past nine, the company began to leave the gardens even earlier, and soon after ten the greater part of Berlin slept. At four or five in the morning the city is awake and busy with the occupations of the day.

SECTION VI. CHURCH SERVICE IN BERLIN.

Among the excellent regulations in Berlin is the publication every Saturday of a list of the preachers at the morning and afternoon service of the next day. As the hour at which the service commences varies in different churches it is stated in this list, and also the hour at which the communion is administered.

The established church in Prussia is the result of an attempt made by the late king to unite the Lutheran and Calvinist churches into one, or rather by abolishing these to institute a new one, which is called the Evangelical. The propriety or the success of this attempt cannot be discussed in these pages, but a short statement of the rites of the church, as they appear to a casual visitor and a stranger, may not be without interest.

The interior of the church is fitted up neatly and plainly; the male and female portions of the congregation occupy separate parts of the church; opposite to each seat is a label, stating, in a fine German text-hand, the name of the occupant, and the date at which the occupancy commenced.

The order of the service is as follows:—The altar is railed in and covered with a cloth; a crucifix with a lighted wax candle on either side stands upon it; and behind and around are pictures of saints and sacred subjects. The priest at the altar is in a plain black gown, and reads the Liturgy of the new church, standing with his back to the altar and facing the people: the responses are made by choristers. The book of public worship in the hands of the congregation is the Gesangbuch, or Hymn-book; this is a collection of prayers, praises, and thanksgivings, written by some of the best German divines; it is printed as prose, but each clause of a sentence rhymes with another clause. These hymns are numbered, and the numbers being hung up in conspicuous parts of the church, the congregation sees what is to be sung without its being given out by minister or clerk. These hymns are sung by the congregation, with an organ accompaniment, in the interval between the lessons for the day and the Liturgy, and again between the Liturgy and the sermon.

The sermon is confined to half an hour: the minister is not allowed to offer either an introductory or a concluding prayer: and on fast-days and other high days even the text is appointed by Government. On ordinary Sundays the text is generally chosen from the lessons for the day.

One of the most interesting appendages to a town in Germany is its public cemetery,—the "Court of Peace," or "God's Acre," as the German terms may be translated. It has been well observed that "in England, the churchyard is generally a small space in the precincts of the church, which is regarded as little else than a passage leading to it; or where it is separated, as happens in many of our populous cities, it is a large inclosure overgrown with weeds and rank grass, which would indicate that it was 'by the world forgot,' except for the high walls, which serve the double purpose of keeping out nightly depredators, and of screening the hateful object from the sight of the rest of the world." In Germany, the public cemetery is an object of public

interest. It is resorted to at all hours, and its gates are always open. It is planted with trees of sombre character, and every grave is a little garden. Affection for the dead is rarely expressed in splendid monuments, and never in inflated inscriptions. A cross, an urn, or a broken pillar, with the addition, (to mark the grave of a soldier) of a sword or a helmet, are generally considered sufficient tokens of respect to the memory of the dead. The inscription, often commencing with "Here rests in God," contains the names of the deceased, (if wife, the maiden name in addition to the other name,) the dates of birth, and of death,—a text, such as "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord," or simply a reference to a text, such as "1 Cor. xv. 55," or a simple sentence, such as "May his ashes softly repose." That the dead are not forgotten by the living is shown by such touching proofs as a garland of fresh flowers, the little border newly dug, or the rose-tree recently pruned and tied up.

Within the enclosure there is often a pump for supplying water to the little garden-graves. There is also a building wherein the bodies of the dead are ordered to be placed within twelve hours after death, the dead-cart calling at the house of the deceased; for whatever may have been his rank or state, death has levelled all distinction; the dead body awaits in this gloomy chamber the hour of interment. In some places a precaution is adopted to prevent premature inhumation: the fingers of the corpse are placed in the loops of a bell-rope connected with an alarm clock placed in the apartment of attendants whose duty it is to watch the dead. The slightest movement of the body would give alarm and procure medical aid.

SECTION VII. VISIT TO POTSDAM AND SANS SOUCI.

Potsdam is so much associated with names, which, if not great, are notorious, that a visit to it is of historical interest. On an excellent railroad you may travel in about half an hour from Berlin to the Prussian Versailles: the beauties that lie between these two places, such as Zehlendorf and the Pfannen-Isel, or Peacock-Island, a favourite summer retreat of the King of Prussia, I had no time to visit, although the latter is described as an enchanting spot,—an oasis in the midst of a wilderness of sand and firs.

Potsdam is situated on the right bank of the Havel, which here expands into a lake, the banks of which are tolerably well wooded. The attractions of this place were created almost entirely by Frederick the Great. It is a town of palaces: it contains in and about it no fewer than four royal residences, and it was Frederick's will that the private houses should look like palaces. These are mostly inhabited by numerous poor families, and the poorness of the interior would contrast strangely with their majestic fronts of imitative stone, were it not that, in many places, it is cracked and mutilated, revealing the poverty of red-brick below. The streets are wide and empty, and the few persons that you meet generally wear an uniform. Potsdam is, in fact, a huge barrack, and its inmates seem to have been carefully provided for. The barracks are very extensive; and a large building, in which the troops are exercised in inclement weather, is pointed out as a curiosity on account of the enormous size of the ground apartment; it is 660 feet in length, and 75 in breadth, the ceiling is entirely supported by the walls and from above, so that the whole of this extensive area is free for the purpose intended.

The most interesting institution in the place is the Military Orphan Asylum, an admirable and well-managed institution, divided into four great compartments;—viz., the Elementary School, the Music School, the School of Industry, and the Nursery, or Infirmary. We were conducted over the various extensive and interesting apartments by the rector, a gentleman whose kind and intelligent manners seem to have won the love of the orphan children over whom he presides: his presence was everywhere greeted with a smile, and for every smile he exchanged a kind word.

The sole attraction at the City Palace is the suite of rooms occupied by Frederick, and which have been preserved in the order which prevailed during his life-time. In these small and unassuming rooms, you see, exactly as he left them,—Frederick's writing-table, ink-stand, music-stand, book-case filled with French works, and the chairs and sofa which he used, with their silken covers much torn by the claws of his favourite dogs. He despised anything more comfortable than a common truck bedstead; but this is now removed, because it was almost pulled and cut to pieces by relic-hunters. But the most curious apartment is the small cabinet adjoining the bed-chamber, provided with

double doors, and a table in the centre which ascends and descends through a trap-door in the floor; so that whenever the king wished to dine with a companion without being overheard or overlooked, the dishes appeared and disappeared on a given signal without the presence of a third person.

The Garrison Church is an object of attraction on account of the tomb of Frederick the Great contained in a vault below the pulpit, which is opened on payment of a small fee. The tomb is quite simple,—it consists merely of a plain metal sarcophagus above ground, without even an inscription or emblem to remind the stranger of royalty. The attendant informed us that Napoleon expressed his surprise at the stern simplicity of Frederick's tomb, and, bending his knee before it, said, "Hadst thou been alive, I should not have been here!" But he committed the mean theft of carrying off Frederick's sword which found an appropriate place on his tomb, and to the regret of the nation it was lost at Paris in the confusion which marked the decline of Napoleon's power, and has never been recovered; but while relating this fact, the attendant never fails to point to the eagles and standards suspended on either side of the tomb taken from Napoleon's armies by the Prussians. In the same vault is another tomb of black marble, containing the remains of the late King William I. The walls of the church are decorated with tablets, containing the names of the soldiers of all ranks who distinguished themselves, or fell during the war of liberation.

The walk from the town to Frederick's palace of Sans Souci is easy. Its approach is by a series of terraces rising like a huge stair, and planted with the vine, the melon, and whatever flowers will grow. Orange-trees in green tubs grace the angles during summer, and they share with the olive the shelter provided from the rude breath of winter. Having ascended to the summit, the palace scarcely repays the trouble: it is a low building in a very neglected state. At the end of the terrace, in front of the palace, are the sepulchral memorials of Frederick's favoured companions, his horse and Italian greyhounds, the latter bearing such names as "Amourette," "Phillis," &c., but the name of the former is unrecorded; the inscription being probably reserved until the monarch's name could be carved on the same slab with that of his charger, in accordance with his wish to be buried in the same grave.

The gardens are laid out in the stiff formal French taste of Louis XIV., with alleys, clipped hedges, fountains, and statues. These last are in a most offensive taste, and worn, blackened, and mutilated as they are by the weather, positively disfigure the grounds which they never adorned. We feel the justice of the remark of Mr. Gleig, that it is not among the recesses of Sans Souci that we are apt to cherish the most satisfactory recollections of Frederick the Great.

"To his passion for dogs and horses, no objection could have been made, had he not carried it to an extreme which shocks our moral sense; for we may well assume that he who desired to be buried in the same grave with a favourite horse, could not draw a very broad line between the eternal destinies of the dead monarch and of the dead charger. Neither would it be fair to condemn his taste in gardening, because the gardens about the palace are laid out so as to outrage nature in every imaginable way. But the habits of life which he indulged in, in this his retirement, accord so ill with our notions of a really great man's honour, that almost involuntarily we shrug up the shoulder, and say, 'What a strange medley of the mighty and the mean is human nature at the best!' Frederick withdrew from time to time to Sans Souci, for the avowed purpose of getting rid of the cares of state. He there, with his guests, gave himself up to recreation; and as it was his fancy to be intellectual even in his recreations, day after day was devoted to literary trifling. The poets and authors whom it was his good pleasure to see around him, racked their brains at night that they might produce extemporaneous epigrams or sonnets in the morning. Warriors and statesmen, and dames of high degree, arrayed themselves as shepherds and shepherdesses, and went forth to tend imaginary flocks, and sing pastoral songs, among hills which Frederick's soldiers had thrown up, and groves which Frederick's gardeners had planted. All this is so silly, and the recollection of it is impressed upon you so vividly by everything which you see in and around the palace, that I very much question whether you do not come away more humbled than gratified by the spectacle. Yet was Frede-

rick's a mind of such an order, that had there not been wanting to it the principle without which all other qualities seem to wither ere they attain their full growth, we should have found it hard, in all history, to point out one that was superior to it. It was doubtless because he had no more elevating taste to indulge, that Frederick took refuge from himself in these tom-fooleries. Gustavus Adolphus would have sought and found amusement in far higher things."

The same respect has been shown to Frederick's apartments at Sans Souci as at the City Palace; except that the same persecution by relic-hunters has forced the bed and chair to a safer refuge in the Museum in Berlin, where soldiers are accustomed to watch over the national treasures. Frederick's clock, which he always wound up himself, still points to the hour (twenty minutes past two) within five minutes of which he expired.

A colonnade running behind the palace and connecting the two extremities of the upper terrace, has a tolerably fine effect. From this colonnade a neighbouring hill is seen crowned with an artificial ruin of a Roman colosseum. Ruins are at all times more painful than pleasing objects to gaze upon; but when time, that slow builder of the picturesque, has been busy on them for ages, and has trailed the creeping ivy over walls which once enclosed alike the palace and the prison, they then become objects of deep interest, forming the material link whereby we connect the past with the present; and whether the ruin be of Roman amphitheatre, Norman stronghold, or priestly abbey, it pertains peculiarly to times long past, and carries us back to the chapter in the history of civilization to which it belongs; but a modern ruin—a modern antique, is positively offensive because unnatural and inappropriate—the mind can associate it with nothing, because it is nothing except a mass of rude stones or cement vainly endeavouring to look old.

Abutting close upon the colonnade is the celebrated windmill which Frederick wished to pull down in order to include the ground in his own gardens. Indeed, the ground is wanted to give completeness to the gardens; and the clack of the mill, heard distinctly from the palace, must have sounded like a note of derision. The king would have paid handsomely for the possession, or he would have built another larger and better mill on a more distant spot; but no! a larger and a better mill had no charms for one who was attached to the home of his fathers, with which all the fond associations of his youth were in a manner connected, and though threatened with all the terrors of the law and the bolts of absolute power, yet the honest miller refused to quit his mill unless the verdict of a court of law decided that the king had a juster claim on the place than himself. Frederick was sufficiently wise, or just, or prudent, not to tempt the honesty of his law officers, and the miller continued to powder the trees of Sans Souci with his flour, and to scare away the birds with his clack. But the story is not complete without relating that a descendant of the celebrated miller being somewhat embarrassed in circumstances offered the mill for sale to the late King: his conduct on the occasion redounds to his honour; "No! no!" said he, "the mill now belongs to Prussian history—it is a national monument, and must remain in your family; here is a sum of money to free you from debt."

The walk from Sans Souci to the New Palace is about a mile through groves of trees, which of late years have been allowed to grow in their own way, and therefore have grown naturally and look beautiful. Indeed, our admiration at this place is not that the trees grow well, but that they grow at all, when we consider that Frederick's fancy was to convert a sandy desert and a swamp into a delicious garden. Indeed, he frequently complained of the climate and soil under which his trees were pining, and hence the witty and courtier-like compliment of the Prince de Ligne: "Sire, it appears that with you nothing thrives but your laurels." The New Palace is a decaying monument of bad taste and folly: it was built by Frederick at the close of the seven years' war, not because he wanted a palace, but because he wanted to convince his enemies that his resources were not exhausted. It contains two hundred apartments; marble and gold have been profusely lavished everywhere, and one large apartment is entirely lined with shells, producing an effect of most intolerable frippery. The pictures too, with very few exceptions, form a collection of rubbish, proving that in order to become the patron and judge of art, something more than unbounded wealth is necessary.

SECTION VIII. JOURNEY TO LEIPSIK.

The transit from Berlin to Leipsic is by a well conducted railroad, which traverses a natural level nearly the whole distance, and reveals but few efforts of the engineer in making rough things smooth. One consequence of this constant level, is, that the line intersects a large number of lanes and cross roads, at each of which is a telegraph managed by an attendant announcing expected trains, and trains gone by, so that the frequenters of these roads have only to look to the signal (two arms hoisted by day, and a lamp by night) to know that a train is soon expected to cross the path; and the arms and the light being lowered to know that he may proceed in safety. Another excellent arrangement is a simple means of communication between the guards and the engine driver, effected by means of a rope passing through iron rings supported by posts and extending the whole length of the train.

The most interesting town on the road was Wittenberg, celebrated as the Protestant Mecca; the cradle of the Reformation where Luther openly opposed the Church of Rome and denounced its abuses. This place contains many interesting memorials of the great Reformer and of his friend Melancthon, which, to my regret I did not inspect, having inadvertently omitted to have this place entered in my passport on quitting Berlin.

Before my arrival at Leipsic I had exchanged travelling companions more than once; but they were all, as usual, very kind and agreeable, and pleased to render assistance and information. The disposition of the people is to be friendly and easily pleased, and when the traveller in search of information, forgets for a while his English reserve, he never need want an intelligent acquaintance and guide. He must, however, beware of appearing to notice the barrenness of the land; the people take all possible pains to conceal it, and think they have succeeded. The sandy waste is wearisome, and the fir plantations no less so; the eye is fatigued with the constant succession of long straight poles and dark foliage, and it was an evident relief to us all when at Coben the scenery began to change, and some trees, not pines, aspired a few feet towards the blue sky. These produced bursts of admiration, "*Wie schön—recht schön—wunderschön*;" the word *schön*, or beautiful, being in constant use among this easily pleased people.

Railroad travelling was very pleasant, especially when contrasted with the slow torture of the Schnell-post. Accommodation on the road was not forgotten, for the German considers frequent supplies of food as necessary to his existence as tobacco is to the breath of his pipe. Whenever the steam horse required provender, the little refreshment-shed at the side of the line was a scene of bustle; sandwiches as thick as twopenny-loaves, sugar-water, fruit, coffee, wine, &c., were freely circulated at moderate charges. But the stoppages, which sometimes extended from twenty to forty minutes, would have fretted some of my countrymen sorely; to me they were peculiarly acceptable, as affording relief to monotonous scenery, and bringing a town or a village under inspection. The native who travels often, and finds no novelty in these things, may if he please grumble; but he does not grumble; he walks about with his long pipe, or diminutive cigar, stirs up his sugar-water in a glass cylinder a foot and a half long with a wooden spoon of two feet, listens to the music provided for him, chats with his neighbour, and is happy.

By the time I had reached Leipsic daylight was giving place to moonlight, and mine host of the Golden Crane was preparing supper. He supplied me with roast goose, apple sauce, and pumper-nickel, as the brown rye-bread is called, which is so extensively used by men, women, and horses, and which has been described by a witty Frenchman as a "*certain pierre dure, noire et gluante, composée à ce qu'on prétend d'une espèce de seigle*."

I passed an hour or two very pleasantly, rambling about this quaint old city. To a person newly arrived from Berlin the contrast is very marked:—Berlin is a city of yesterday, and bears marks not of German but of French origin. Leipsic is a city of the middle ages: its streets are narrow and unpaved—its houses described by Göthe as "extraordinary shining buildings, with a front to two streets, inclosing courts and containing every class of citizens within sky-high buildings that resemble large castles and are equal to half a city." The old houses are, indeed, resplendent with windows, and the roofs sometimes of sufficient pitch to contain six stories of windows, and small steeples on their tops. It would almost seem that the

intention was to accommodate every inmate of the house with a window for his own especial use, for nowhere are people more fond of the idle habit of "looking out of the window." For the gratification of this luxury window-cushions are provided, on which the elbows rest for many an odd half hour; and it is indeed curious to see the long pipes dangling out of the window, and gentle equidistant puffs of smoke ascending from this soporific battery. In most of the towns of Germany smoking is strictly prohibited in the streets. I was more than once tempted to inquire the difference between smoking out of the window and smoking in the street. It is certainly a Straddling versus Styles case.

The peculiarities of Leipsic seem to be all congregated in the great market-place; and the effect, although quaint, is picturesque. The ancient Rathhaus is a type of the window-roofed houses: it bears upon its front the appropriate inscription, "Unless the Lord keep the city, the watchmen watch in vain."

Not the least remarkable among the sights in this old square were the peasant girls weaving beautiful garlands of flowers; so beautiful, indeed, that one could not but regret their perishableness.

Leipsic affords another example of the inutility of stone walls in the nineteenth century; the fortifications have been converted into gardens, and the walk between them and the suburbs, including the entire circuit of the old town, is most agreeable, and occupies scarcely an hour, while every step brings into view some spot rendered interesting by one of the longest and sternest actions of war, and one of the greatest battles recorded in history. The battle of Leipsic is distinguished by the Germans as the *Völkerschlacht*, or the Battle of the Nations: it decided the downfall of Napoleon, and consequently the fate of Europe.

The suburbs present none of the peculiarities of the old town; but contain several new and handsome buildings, including the post-office, near which is the establishment of Mr. Brockhaus, the eminent printer and bookseller, situated in the very centre of his trade.

The book trade of Leipsic is so important that the booksellers, of whom there are reckoned at the fairs about 560, and many of them settled in Leipsic, have a large exchange of their own to transact their business in. But it is not, as Mr. Laing remarks, the printing and publishing in Leipsic itself that is the basis of these book fairs, but the barter of publications between booksellers meeting there from different points. The bookseller, perhaps from Kiel on the Baltic, meets and exchanges publications with the bookseller perhaps from Zurich, gives so many copies of his publication, a dull pamphlet possibly, for so many of the others,—an entertaining work. Each gets an assortment of goods by this traffic, such as he knows will suit his customers, out of a publication of which he could not perhaps sell a score of copies within his own circle; but a score sold in every book-selling circle in Germany gets rid of an edition. Suppose the work out and out stupid and unsaleable, still it has its value; it is exchangeable should it be only at the value of wrapping paper for works less unsaleable, and puts the publisher in possession of a saleable stock, and of a variety of works. His profit also not depending altogether upon the merit of the one work he publishes, but upon the assortment for sale he can make out of it by barter, he can afford to publish works of a much lower class as to merit, or saleable properties, than English publishers. The risk is divided, and also the loss, and not merely divided among all the booksellers who take a part of an edition in exchange for part of their own publications, but in effect is divided among the publications. The standard work, or the new publication of an author of celebrity, pays the risk or the loss of the publisher of the bad unsaleable work, as by it he is put in possession of the former, or the more saleable goods. The loss also, compared to that of an English publisher, is trifling, because although the German press can deliver magnificent books, yet the general taste of the public for neat, fine, well-finished productions in printing as in all the useful arts, is not by any means fully developed as with us, and is satisfied with very inferior paper, made of much cheaper materials. The publisher, also, is saved the very important expense of stitching, boarding, or binding all he publishes, by his own capital, the private buyer generally taking his books in sheets. The bound or made-up books in booksellers' shops are but few, and generally only those of periodical or light literature. The advantage to literature of this system into which the book trade has settled is, that hundreds of works see the light which with us would never

get to the printing house at all. The disadvantage is, that it encourages prolixity of style, both in thinking and expression; two or three ideas are spun out into a volume, and literature is actually overwhelmed and buried under its own fertility and fruits. No human powers could wade through the flood of publication poured out every half year upon every conceivable subject. Dr. Menzel states, that at least ten millions of new volumes are printed annually in Germany. Each half-year's Leipzig catalogue numbers at least a thousand new writers: hence it is calculated that there are no fewer than fifty thousand persons now living who have perpetrated a book. At this rate, as Mr. Strang remarks, the names of German authors will exceed the number of living German readers.

The books sent for subscription to Leipzig remain there twelve months and a day, after which the remainders or unsold copies are returned to their respective publishers, under the name of *Krebs*, i. e., crabs, an indigestible description of shell-fish with which Leipzig most plentifully supplies all Germany.

SECTION IX. DRESDEN.

Leipzig is united to Dresden by a railroad, and four hours suffice for the journey. For some distance the country is flat as usual, but in the course of the transit the eye is refreshed with the sight of engineering efforts; the line has not been altogether levelled by nature: cuttings, embankments, and a long tunnel, show that we are in the region of hills; and before the spires of the "German Florence" come into sight, the country assumes altogether a different aspect. At Meissen (the seat of the celebrated Dresden china manufactory) the Elbe is crossed by a long bridge, on passing which the valley is seen smiling with cultivation, and richly variegated with fruit trees and vineyards, while the undulating slope is dotted with the summer-houses of the proprietors and the dwellings of the vine-dressers.

The approach to Dresden from Leipzig does not convey a good idea of its very picturesque situation. Being placed in the centre of an enormous plain, yet surrounded on all sides by an amphitheatre of low hills; with domes and gilded spires glistening in the sun, and a fine river gliding peacefully along, Dresden from most points of view has a very charming appearance; but here, as in so many other cases,

"Tis distance lends enchantment to the view;

for when examined in detail the city has a gloomy air; its streets are narrow, and badly paved; its public buildings are insignificant,—the royal palace positively ugly, composed of many pieces running up one street and down another, apparently without any attempt at architectural beauty. Connected with the palace by an unseemly covered gallery spanning the street is the Roman Catholic Church; for here we have the strange anomaly of a court professing a different religion from that of the people. Upon this church, which is a tasteless specimen of a tasteless style, the Italian, the hand of decoration has been lavish and profuse. It was built in the early part of the last century after a design of the Italian Chiaveri. The quantity of ornament, as Mr. Russell remarks, and the waved façade with its interrupted cornices and broken pediments, show the bad taste of the time. The elevations of the lower part are harmonious, and the effect of the whole gorgeous; but there is a total want of simplicity and grandeur, and the parapets are bristled round with grim sandstone saints. The more simple and elegant form of the interior is injured by the galleries for the accommodation of the court. In equally bad taste is the introduction of a full band into the church on Sundays and festivals, to assist in the performance of high mass; the effect is certainly very fine, but it belongs properly to the concert room; for there is something very offensive to the ears of a Protestant in the sound of drums and trumpets, and men having the voices of women, as accompaniments to the worship of God in a Christian church. During the service the female part of the congregation occupies one side of the church and the males the other, and domestics of the royal household, armed with enormous bâtons, walk up and down the nave to preserve order.

The most favourable view of Dresden is obtained from the bridge, or from the terrace of Brühl. "Whether you look up or down the river," says Mr. Russell, "the towers and palaces of the city are pictured in the stream. A lovely plain, groaning beneath population and fertility, retires for a short distance from the further bank, then swells into an amphitheatre of gentle slopes, laid out in vineyards, decked with an endless succession of villages and villas, and shut in towards the south by the summits of the Saxon Swiss, a

branch of the mountains of Bohemia." The bridge itself is of stone, and is regarded as the largest and finest structure of the kind in Germany. Its construction is very solid, in order that it may resist the force of the stream, (which when the snow begins to melt, sometimes rises sixteen feet in twenty-four hours,) and the shocks of floating masses or ice. At the time of my visit the excessive heat and drought had shrunk up the river to a narrow sluggish stream, and every green thing was parched for want of moisture. But the environs of the city were exceedingly beautiful, and the view from the terrace of Brühl very charming. This terrace, which is approached by a handsome flight of broad steps, runs along the left bank of the Elbe. It is the favourite promenade, and in fine warm weather much frequented by those who seek an hour's pastime. Under the shadow of chesnut and acacia they can enjoy their pipe and coffee, or Bavarian beer, with a beautiful view before them, and good music at hand. The Bavarian beer, just mentioned, is a thin and very bitter drink. The brewery is situated at a short distance from the city, on the right bank of the river, and is a place of great, but not of vulgar resort. We were conveyed thither in an omnibus, which resembled ours only in having a long body and being very clumsy. The coachman's seat was on the same level with the twelve passengers occupying the body of the vehicle; it was covered in and capable of accommodating three persons besides the coachman. From the roof of the coachman's seat was attached, by an elastic band of iron, a bell, which with every motion of the coach made a fearful noise. Its use was to spare the lungs of the conductor behind, who, whenever he wished the carriage to stop, pulled a handle, the effect of which was to impart a kind of hysterical jerk to the said bell, and thus to produce some variation in the noise, which to the coachman's accustomed ear indicated that a stoppage was required. Another jerk informed him when to proceed. But soon the noise ceased, and we were set down at the bottom of a flight of steps conducting us to a terrace, on which stands the brewery, a handsome and extensive white building. It contains spacious saloons and apartments for guests in damp or cold weather, and gardens for dry and warm weather. The beer is served in thick glass jugs with metal covers, its taste was cool and bitter, and its effect refreshing; almost every description of eatable may be procured here, and a band of music generally enlivens the effect of the whole.

But at this and at all other places of amusement, the parties break up at an early hour. Everybody is in bed by ten o'clock or half-past, after which the stranger finds the streets deserted by all except the night watch, going their rounds and blowing their harsh horns, to indicate that the guardians of the city are awake while others sleep. The dinner hour was also equally primitive. My breakfast being generally served up in my little chamber at six o'clock, I was quite ready for the table d'hôte at noon. These dinners were pleasant, not only on account of the novelty and goodness of the food, but also for the pleasant company and the great kindness displayed by all.

One of the principal attractions of Dresden is its picture gallery, containing the finest collection to be met with anywhere north of the Alps, but it is greatly to be regretted that some of the finest specimens, although they were spared by the conqueror, have suffered from exposure to moisture and long neglect. Frederick the Great bombarded Dresden, battered down its churches, and laid its streets in ruins, but ordered his cannon and mortars to keep clear of the Picture Gallery. He entered as a conqueror, but with affected humility requested permission of the captive Electress to visit the gallery as a stranger. It is indeed very painful to see the air of neglect which pervades everything in this exhibition: the building itself is old and shabby, and being formed of one square within another, (as if a broad gallery running round a square had been divided by erecting a partition parallel to the sides of the square,) the lights are badly managed. Those of the outer square are from the street, those of the inner from the court which the square contains; the best pictures are placed opposite the windows, and a very large number occupy screens, which project half-way into the room between every two windows. Many of the paintings are dirty, and the frames tarnished, so that for want of fires during winter, and proper ventilation during summer, pictures of inestimable value, including the Raphael and the Correggios, have become injured. Attention has been called to the fact, and a new gallery on the banks of the Elbe is talked of, but it is greatly feared that some are too much injured to be recovered, and that others may suffer from injudicious

restoration. The number of paintings in this gallery amounts to 1857, and 177 pastel or crayon-paintings: the catalogue contains a short description of every one of the paintings, including its dimensions and the material upon which the artist worked, whether canvass, copper, or wood. Respecting the arrangement, the outer gallery contains the works of French, Flemish, and Dutch masters in eight divisions. The inner gallery is devoted to Italian and Spanish masters in five divisions, with the exception of the works of Raphael and of the Roman school, which occupy a separate department, or a ninth division of the outer gallery.

To appreciate the beauties of this noble collection, abundant leisure and a cultivated taste for the fine arts are most indispensable. Not possessing either of these requisites I will not presume to say one word respecting individual pictures, but refer the reader who is interested in the subject to more competent judges*.

One of the most remarkable and valuable collections of works of art in Dresden, perhaps in the world, is to be found in that portion of the royal palace known as the Grüne Gewölbe, or Green Vaults, a term which has given rise to much conjecture and discussion, and yet remains doubtful, but originating probably from the colour of the hangings with which the chambers were originally decorated. They are shown on week-days from eight to twelve and from two to six. The admission is obtained on payment of a fee of two dollars to one of the inspectors or keepers of the collection, who conducts parties not exceeding six in number over the same, and points out the most remarkable objects. It is usual for a stranger to state to the landlord of his inn his wish to visit the collection, and as men call daily at the hotels to make up parties of six, you can be included in one such party on payment of one-sixth of the admission fee and a trifle to the man who makes up the party. The catalogue, in its appropriate green cover, is useless during the exhibition, not only on account of the clumsy style in which it is arranged, containing as it does such objects only as the compiler judges worthy of notice, but because the person who conducts you through the place is talking the whole time, and inviting your attention to particular objects, and is ready and able to answer any question that may be put. The catalogue, however, is useful to refresh the memory, and to furnish a few historical and anecdotal particulars of some of the most interesting objects.

The origin of this collection belongs to the times when the Electors of Saxony were among the most powerful and richest of the sovereigns of Europe. The Elector Augustus, in the year 1560, formed in his castle a cabinet of arts, the first contents of which consisted mostly of mechanical, surgical, and mathematical instruments, minerals, watches, books, pictures, curiosities in nature and art, (all of which are still preserved in the present collection,) the object of which was to present under one view whatever was most remarkable in art and science, with examples of what could be accomplished by the exercise of patient ingenuity. Some time after, this prince enriched the collection with the jewels belonging to himself and his family, together with numerous works in gold and silver, and in precious stones; and his descendants following this example, gradually collected all kinds of rare objects, such as jewels and exquisite carvings in the most costly materials. During stormy periods in the history of Saxony the collection has been more than once packed up and removed to a place of greater security; but it does not appear that any of the objects have been lost. The value of the whole collection must amount to several millions. "The political economist would regret that so much capital should lie idle, while the man of taste may affect to despise what, at first sight, he might deem a collection of toys; but, in truth, he will find on a nearer examination that a large portion of the objects are in the highest degree worthy of attention as works of art, while others are wonderful as the elaborate productions of patient toil and skill, and of arts, which in the present day may be said to be almost extinct, or at least to have degenerated."

Within the last few years the whole collection has been re-arranged. It is now under the direction of a Minister of State, and is intrusted to the care of two inspectors, and two attendants, who are all personally liable for the safety of every article, and every year a minute inspection of the

whole collection is made. There are eight rooms, each exceeding the previous one in the splendour and richness of its contents; but the objects are so numerous that we can only allude to a few.

The first room contains a collection of bronzes. The statues and groups amount to one hundred and ten: they are all cabinet specimens, i. e., smaller than life and of most exquisite workmanship, being for the most part Italian copies of the most celebrated works of antiquity. An equestrian statue of Charles II. of England, in character of Saint George, is cut out of a solid block of iron. The artist, Gottfried Leygebe of Nuremberg, worked at it almost incessantly during five years. A crucifix, eighteen inches high, by John of Bologna, is the masterpiece of the collection.

The second, or Ivory Cabinet, contains 484 specimens of the most exquisite carvings in ivory. It is stated that the Elector Augustus, the founder of the collection, was especially fond of works in ivory. Some cups in this cabinet are said to be of his workmanship, and it is related that on one occasion, in the ardour of his pursuit, he lost a portion of his long beard at the turning-lathe. A beautiful crucifix is pointed out as the work of Michael Angelo, but in the catalogue it is stated that Baldassari, one of his pupils, is most probably the artist who carved it. Two horse's heads, in relief, are by Michael Angelo. There are also some beautiful works by that universal genius, Albert Durer. One of the most wonderful specimens of skill and industry in this cabinet is the fall of Lucifer and the wicked angels, consisting of eighty-five figures, carved in one piece of ivory sixteen inches high, and mounted in a frame of silver. Another elaborate work is the model of a Dutch frigate, on the principal sail of which are the arms of Saxony beautifully cut.

In the third cabinet are ostrich eggs carved and ornamented in a variety of ways. Some are mounted so as to form drinking-cups; others are made to represent the bird itself, with silver or gold head, wings, and feet. In the same way a large number of vessels are formed by mounting shells, chiefly those of the nautilus, so as to represent the forms of animals, real and fabulous, and many strange devices, exhibiting vast ingenuity and skill on the part of the artist. There are also a large number of curious works in coral, agate, turquoise, porcupine's quills, mother of pearl, and amber. The various Florentine and Roman mosaics in this collection give a very good idea of the progress and results of that beautiful art. Some are very costly, the materials employed being precious stones. Landscapes, portraits, flowers, fruits, birds, and insects are represented with much fidelity, and great splendour of colouring. The paintings in enamel are among the most successful specimens of this art. Several are by Ismael and Raphael Mengs, and Dinglinger, brother to the goldsmith of that name. This chamber also contains works in Dresden china. One is a chimney-piece adorned with the precious stones of Saxony.

The fourth cabinet contains the gold and silver plate which was used at the royal banquets of Saxony. It consists of silver gilt, or of solid gold, and much of it is adorned with precious stones. There are also costly vessels of crystal, valuable watches, &c. The taste for splendid ornaments has been exhibited in Saxony from ancient times. Especially from the twelfth century have they been considered as a necessary accompaniment to the splendour of a court, and even to the establishment of an illustrious knight or gentleman. Not only the dining-table, but the rooms where the master was in the habit of sitting, were profusely adorned with costly and peculiar vessels of gold, silver, crystal, &c., while about the dining hall was a large variety of splendid beakers and vases for the use of the guests. The love of splendour excited emulation to procure the most rare and costly vessels: all sorts of colossal cups, bowls, salutation cups, stirrup cups, drinking horns, &c., were fashioned into fantastic figures of unicorns, stags, elephants, or of owls and other birds, or of knights, as St. George, &c. By degrees the use of these vessels ceased to be common, and now they are merely produced at public entertainments of princes and nobles. It is only on extraordinary occasions that these treasures are used by the court of Saxony. Many of them are supposed to be by Benvenuto Cellini. Some of the cups are of the rarest opal, ruby, and purple glass, produced by the secret processes of Kunkell. This cabinet also contains some musical clocks adorned with precious stones and filagree work, and exhibiting a variety of automatic movements: these clocks were placed on the banquet tables near distinguished guests.

The fifth cabinet contains above a thousand objects, such

* In Mr. Murray's admirable *Hand-book for Travellers in Northern Germany*, which no English traveller in that country ought to be without, the choicest works are set down "with the view of guiding the eye of the spectator in a collection so extensive, sparing him the fatigue of examining productions less worthy of attention, and at the same time relieving him from the mortification of having passed over any of acknowledged merit."

as vessels of agate, chalcedony, rock crystal, lapis lazuli, &c. The varieties of agate are great, those of moss-agate and fortification-agate being especially beautiful. The gems and cameos are numerous and valuable. There are goblets composed entirely of cut gems, valued at six thousand dollars each. A set of vessels cut out of rock-crystal is remarkable on account of the size and lustre of the specimens. Before the period of the modern manufacture of crystal glass, such vessels as these were greatly esteemed, and found only on the tables of the great. One of the most remarkable specimens in rock-crystal is a perfectly transparent solid globe, weighing fifteen pounds, and measuring nearly eight inches in diameter. There are also some exquisite carvings on wood by Colin of Mechlin, and by Albert Durer, and a large painting in enamel.

The sixth cabinet contains a collection of cleverly carved caricatures in ivory and wood, frequently adorned with enamel and precious stones: enormous pearls fashioned into a variety of odd shapes, the pearl often forming the body of a figure, while the other parts are composed of gold and enamel, and even of diamonds and other precious stones. Thus the body of a court dwarf is represented by a pearl nearly the size of a hen's egg. Also a great variety of splendid and costly knickknackeries, busts and figures of animals in precious stones, beautiful figures cut in rock-crystal, watches called Nuremberg eggs, from their shape, and from the name of the place where they were made in 1500. Also a golden egg containing a variety of objects enclosed one within another, the last object being a splendid signet-ring with the motto "Constant in spite of the storm." There is also an automaton spider. A very remarkable pair of bracelets are likewise exhibited. They formerly belonged to the Princess Louisa, and contain miniature pictures, representing the one the *eye*, and the other the *arm* of the Queen Regent Maria Christina of Spain.

The seventh cabinet. Three of the Saxon princes wore the crown of Poland, and this cabinet exhibits splendid testimonies of the fact in the form of the regalia used at coronations. There are also some very clever elaborate carvings in wood here exhibited. Also cherry-stones on which are engraved innumerable heads that require the aid of a lens in order to become distinguishable.

The eighth cabinet. This cabinet greatly surpasses all the rest in value and splendour. Some wonderful performances of the artist Dinglinger and his associates are among

its contents. One piece in particular attracts the notice of the visitor; it is called the court of the Great Mogul. On a throne of gold, surmounted by a splendid canopy, is seated the Emperor Aurengzebe, with guards and courtiers surrounding him, all in appropriate costume. There are one hundred and thirty-two figures in this piece, all of pure gold enamelled. This extraordinary toy occupied the artist and his assistants eight years, from 1701 to 1708 inclusive. The cost of it was upwards of eighty-five thousand dollars. Another piece, the work of this artist, represents artisans employed in their different trades, and is remarkable for its fidelity and delicate execution. In this cabinet are contained likewise the Saxon regalia, including the Electoral sword borne by Saxon princes at the Imperial coronations; a large collection of chains, collars and orders; an antique cameo of onyx, having on it the portrait of Augustus; the largest sardonyx known, six inches and a half long, and four and a quarter broad; complete suits of the most costly jewels, sapphires, rubies, pearls, emeralds, and diamonds. Among the sapphires is a splendid uncut specimen presented by Peter the Great. The diamonds are superb, and it is said that they are of sufficient value to pay off the national debt of Saxony. The diamond decorations of the gala dress of the emperor are exceedingly rich. Three brilliants in the armlet weigh nearly fifty carats each. The most remarkable stone in the collection is a green brilliant weighing a hundred and sixty carats. In this cabinet are also two rings which belonged to Martin Luther; one a cornelian, bearing a rose and in its centre a cross; the other his enamelled seal-ring, bearing a death's head, and the motto "*Mori sepe cogita*." There is a specimen of solid native silver from the mine at Freiberg, and a specimen of uncut Peruvian emeralds, given to the Elector by Charles V. There is also a set of native Saxon pearls from the Elster.

This immense collection of treasure, though it may indeed remind one of "the gorgeous magnificence of oriental despots, or the magic productions of Aladdin's lamp," is yet sadly obscured by the gloom of the apartments in which it is placed, and the little attention which has been paid to its arrangement. Such a collection, in the hands of persons who exhibited a due regard to neatness, elegance, and effective arrangement, would indeed present an amazing spectacle of riches and splendour, but under the disadvantages of low dark rooms, dismal iron gratings, &c., we do not recognise half its real magnificence.



EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF AUGUSTUS II., AT DRESDEN.